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NEWS IN BRIEF

CBS wants CIA to release study on Viet troop count

Washington

Lawyers for CBS, which contends estimates of communist troop strength in Vietnam were deliberately understated, want an appeals court to order the CIA to release a congressional study on the dispute.

The trial of Gen. William C. Westmoreland's \$120 million libel suit began a five-day recess Thursday, while lawyers for both sides appeared before a three-judge panel of the US Court of Appeals here.

CIA attorney John Bates said that the report was produced to evaluate intelligence methods; that its use was current; and that publication could lead to "public criticism that would destroy the spirit" of agency discussion.